**A Introduction of Japan**

**Location**

Japan is an island country and located in northern hemisphere. Its area is 377,826 (three-hundred seventy-seven thousand eight hundred twenty-six) square kilometers and the sixtieth largest in the world. 　Japan is bounded on the north by the Sea of Japan and the south by the Pacific. Also, there are a lot of mountains in Japan. Above all, Mt. Fuji is the most famous as Japan’s highest mountain. The Japanese government is going to recommend it as one of the UNESCO's World Heritage list.

**National flag**

Japanese national flag is called Hinomaru, the rising sun, in Japanese. It has been used for 130 years. However its origin is not clearly proven yet. According to a theory, early Japanese people admired the sun. People appreciate the middle red circle of the flag as the sun.

**National Flower**

Here is a question! Do you know what the Japanese national flower is?

1. Tulip 2. Cherry blossom 3. Lily

The answer is cherry-blossom, Sakura in Japanese. Every spring, we are fascinated to see them and have a cherry blossom viewing party under the tree. It is called *Hanami.* It is a long-standing Japanese custom. This is the picture of cherry blossoms in front of Kasumigaoka High School. Aren't they beautiful? The cherry blossoms are in full bloom all along the road.

**National bird**

The Green Pheasant is the national bird of Japan. The male has a violet neck, red bare facial skin and has a brown plumage with dark spots. Its habitant is light wooded areas near cultivates lands and meadows. Their breeding season is April to early June. They have long lived in the Japanese land. This species is common and widespread throughout its native range.

**Japanese famous song**

Look at this picture. They are one of Japanese singers called SMAP. They are very famous and popular among many people. In Japan, music industry is so active that new songs are released one after another.

**Japan’s good point**

Here is the question! What it the average life expectancy of Japan?

1. man is 88.4 woman is 95.3
2. man is 78.4 woman is 85.3
3. man is 68.4 woman is 75.3

The answer is 2. Japan has the highest average life expectancy in the world. That’s because of Japanese food. Japanese food is so healthy and delicious that it is loved by people all over the world. This is what we most proud of.

**Japan’s bad point**

On the other hand, there are some bad points in Japan, for example, politics. We have some complaints against the Japanese government. Recently we have 5 prime ministers for 3 years. This is not good for the people. We, senior high school students, should pay more attention to Japanese politics, and have sound opinions them.